

January 9, 2013

Mr. Barry Maleki President Westech College 3491 East Concours Ontario, CA 91764-4988 Certified Mail
Return Receipt Requested
#: 7007 0710 0001 0674 6231

RE: Expedited Final Program Review Determination Letter

OPE ID: 03062300 PRCN: 201310928134

Dear Mr. Maleki:

From December 11, 2012 through December 18, 2012, Adeline Espinosa conducted a review of Westech College's (Westech's) administration of the programs authorized pursuant to Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1070 et seq. (Title IV, HEA programs). The purpose of this Final Program Review Determination (FPRD) Letter is to close the program review.

The focus of the review was to determine Westech's compliance with 34 C.F.R. § 668.6(b) that requires institutions to disclose certain information about each of their Gainful Employment (GE) Programs. The review consisted of an examination of Westech's catalog and brochures, student consumer publications, website, and promotional materials given to the current and prospective students.

Although the review was thorough, it cannot be assumed to be all-inclusive. The absence of statements in the report concerning Westech's specific practices and procedures must not be construed as acceptance, approval, or endorsement of those specific practices and procedures. Furthermore, it does not relieve Westech of its obligation to comply with all of the statutory or regulatory provisions governing the Title IV, HEA programs.

The San Francisco/Seattle School Participation Division has made a Final Program Review Determination concerning the finding that was identified during the program review. Following is a discussion of the finding identified and the resolution of that finding.

## Program Finding and Final Program Review Determination:

Finding 1: Failure to Comply with Gainful Employment (GE) Disclosure Requirement

**Citation:** With respect to Gainful Employment (GE) disclosures and for each GE program offered by an institution, the institution must provide prospective students with the occupations (by names and SOC codes) that the program prepares students to enter, along with links to occupational profiles on O\*NET or its successor site. If the number of occupations related to the

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program, as identified by entering the program's full six digit CIP code on the O\*NET crosswalk at <a href="http://online.onetcenter.org/crosswalk">http://online.onetcenter.org/crosswalk</a> is more than ten, the institution may provide web links to a representative sample of the identified occupations (by name and SOC code) for which its graduates typically find employment within a few years after completing the program. An institution must:

- (i) Include the information required in promotional materials it makes available to prospective students and post this information on its Web site;
- (ii) Prominently provide the information required in a simple and meaningful manner on the home page of its program web site, and provide a prominent and direct link on any other web page containing general, academic, or admissions information about the program, to the single web page that contains all the required information;
- (iii) Display the information required on the institution's web site in an open format that can be retrieved, downloaded, indexed, and searched by commonly used web search applications. An open format is one that is platform-independent, is machine-readable, and is made available to the public without restrictions that would impede the reuse of that information; and
- (iv) Use the disclosure form issued by the Secretary to provide the information when that form is available.

34 C.F.R. § 668.6

**Noncompliance:** As noted in the Compliance section above, institutions are required to disclose certain information about each of their GE programs, which includes a list of occupations by name and Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) codes. Westech disclosed the occupations by name correctly; however, Westech was using DOT (Dictionary of Occupational Titles) numbers as occupation codes on its web site and catalog. These numbers have not been used since 1991 and were replaced by SOC codes, which can be found on the O\*Net website.

**Institutional Action Taken to Resolve Noncompliance:** Westech was informed of this finding during the review and corrected its catalog, as well as its web site, so the SOC codes current appear.

**Final Program Review Determination:** Westech has taken the corrective actions necessary to resolve this finding. Therefore, Westech may consider this finding closed, with no further action required.

## **Record Retention:**

Program records relating to the period covered by the program review must be retained until the later of: resolution of the loans, claims or expenditures questioned in the program review; or the end of the retention period otherwise applicable to the record under 34 C.F.R. § 668.24(e).

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We would like to express our appreciation for the courtesy and cooperation extended during the review. If you have any questions concerning this report, please call Adeline Espinosa at (415) 486-5532.

Sincerely,

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Martina Fernandez-Rosario
Division Director
San Francisco/Seattle School Participation Division

cc: Ms. Linda Holden, Director of Operations
Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges
California Bureau of Private Postsecondary Education